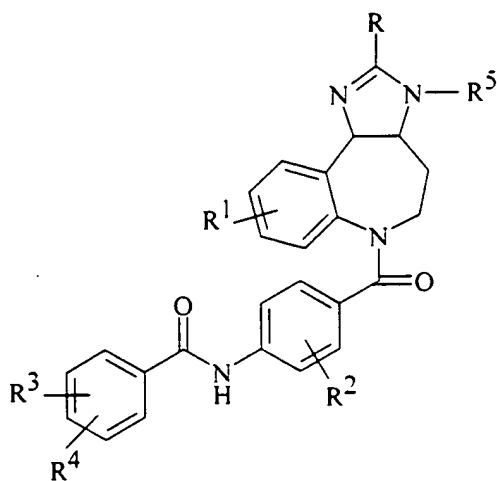


CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a diuretic agent and an effective amount of a vasopressin antagonist.
- 5 2. A composition according to Claim 1 employing a loop diuretic agent.
3. A composition according to Claim 1 employing a vasopressin antagonist of Formula I



wherein R and R⁵ are hydrogen or lower alkyl:

- 10 R¹, R², and R³ independently are hydrogen, halo, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, alkylamino, or dialkylamino; and
- R⁴ is hydrogen, phenyl or substituted phenyl, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

4. A composition according to Claim 3 in which the vasopressin antagonist is conivaptan.
- 15 5. A composition to Claim 2 employing furosemide.

6. A composition to Claim 5 employing the vasopressin antagonist conivaptan.
- 5 7. A method for preventing and treating congestive heart failure and other edematous conditions in a mammal comprising administering an effective amount of a combination of at least one diuretic agent and at least one vasopressin antagonist.
8. A method according to Claim 7 wherein furosemide is administered in combination with conivaptan.
- 10 9. A method for inhibiting excretion of sodium ions in the urine of an animal comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a diuretic in combination with a vasopressin antagonist.
10. A method according to Claim 9 wherein the diuretic administered is a loop diuretic.
- 15 11. A method according to Claim 10 wherein furosemide is administered in combination with conivaptan.
12. A method for inhibiting the excretion of potassium ions in the urine of an animal comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a diuretic in combination with a vasopressin antagonist.
13. A method according to Claim 12 wherein the diuretic is a loop diuretic.
- 20 14. A method according to Claim 13 wherein furosemide is administered in combination with conivaptan.
15. A method for treating edematous states in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a diuretic agent in combination with a vasopressin antagonist.